



NM5HD

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
FOR THE
HIGH DESERT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF NEW
MEXICO INC.

A 501(c)(3) Non Profit Organization

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Introduction from the President

Greetings,

I hope you had an enjoyable Labor Day weekend. I was down in Hatch at the Chili Festival with my son and nephew. It was a great event. It really showcased why we are so passionate about chili in New Mexico. While I was there we paid a visit to Spaceport America in preparation of our visit there as a club this coming Sunday. We will be operating on the Mega Link from 1000 -1400 hours. Please check in with us. We hope to have visitors checking in on the Mega Link from the Spaceport through Mike C NM5MC from our location. We would like for you to be on the air to visit with them if you can anytime you can spare from 1000-1400 hours. Let's show Spaceport guest how passionate we are about HAM radio. Full details later in the newsletter. We began purchasing test equipment this week for the Test Equipment Loaner Program. More Information is contained in that section of the newsletter. The Duke City Hamfest is approaching. Thank you to members who have taken on a role at the Hamfest. If you haven't registered to go, take a look at what is being offered at the three day event. Just a reminder, there is no club meeting this month on September 21, 2024 so you may freely attend the Duke City Hamfest if you wish. Have a great week. I hope to hear you on the Air on the Mega Link this Saturday for the Chat Shack Net and on Sunday for the Spaceport America Open House.

73 Mike KI5NBP

Club Repeaters and Simplex Frequencies

The Club has Two Repeaters, 442.750+ PL 162.2 on Sandia Crest and 145.370 - PL 162.2 in Edgewood. The Club uses two Simplex frequencies, 146.460 and 446.025

Join the FUN, join the Club

Are you aware that the HDARC is one of the most active Amateur Radio Clubs in New Mexico? Well, it is! Read on and find out! Tell a friend! www.nm5hd.org

To become a club member go to www.nm5hd.org and click on the "become a member" tab to join the ever growing group of the coolest Hams in New Mexico, you'll be glad you did!



2024 Spaceport America Open House

In 5 Days (Sunday Sept 8) the HDARC will be operating at the 2024 Spaceport America Open House in southern New Mexico from 1000 to 1400 hours. I did an advance visit to this site last Saturday while visiting the Hatch Chili Festival. I took two (2) possible routes to get there. If you plan on navigating through your vehicles or cell phone navigation system ensure you enter this address: "Spaceport America Co Rd A021, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901". Otherwise you will end up in Las Cruces by just entering "Spaceport America". The route that takes you through the Elephant Butte Dam has less mileage but the first

15 miles through the recreation area is filled with a lot of ascending and descending curves which we found tends to confuse the navigation system and it is slow going. Once through that part it is flat and paved. Your second option is to exit off of I-25 at Upham just south of Hatch. This



has more mileage but is straightforward. Take the Upham exit. Go east and follow the Spaceport America signage for about 25-30 miles on paved county road. There is a lot of signage on this road for Spaceport America. Watch out for the cows the closer you get to Spaceport Drive. They wander freely on the road. The drive to Spaceport is 3.5 hours verified whether you approach it from T or C going

through the Butte or from the I-25 Upham exit.

On Sunday Sept. 8, 2024 We will be monitoring the Mega Link from 1000 -1400 hours. Please check in with us. We hope to have visitors checking in on the Mega Link from the Spaceport through Mike C NM5MC from our location. We would like for you to be on the air for a bit to visit with them. Whatever is convenient for you.

A ticket is required for admittance. We will be demonstrating Amateur Radio and how it aligns/relates with Space. David(N6SIK) and Hailey(KI5KAF) will be responsible for the demonstration and hands-on experience for communicating through Amateur Satellites. Ron (KI5NBN) will set up and seek other club members attending to work 20 meters hunting POTA. Mike C (NM5MC) will work 2 meters and 70 CM (trying not to affect what David and Hailey are doing with Satellites). And maybe some 10 meters. Yul (WA5YUL) is bringing one of his go kits to set up and operate. *(This is always subject to change)*

This will be a long day. We must set up at Spaceport America between 0800hr and 1000 hrs local time. Breakdown is between 1400 - 1500 hours local time. Rob KI5NBN and I will be at the vendor's gate at 0730 hours.

Here is the roster for our HDARC Spaceport America Demonstration team:

**Yul WA5YUL
David N6SIK
Becky N6TYT
Rob KI5NBN
Ken AG5UY
Mike S. KI5NBP
Tom NM5TS
Hailey KI5KAF
Mike C. NM5MC
Carol K5TFL**

Thank you for volunteering. This team will be receiving an email no later than this Friday with all last minute information.

**This event requires anyone wishing to attend to obtain a ticket beforehand. They are having a morning and afternoon event. To obtain tickets if you wish to attend go to this url,
<https://www.spaceportamerica.com/open-house/>.**

My last communications with the Spaceport America Event Coordinator earlier today showed they had about 300 out of 4000 tickets left. The address to Spaceport USA is: Co Rd A021, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901

We will have a lot to report back to the club about and a lot of pictures and video to share.

Test Equipment Loaner Program for Members

At the August 2024 membership meeting an expenditure not to exceed \$1000.00 to purchase test equipment for this new program was approved. The authorization had a 120 day spending threshold. I asked VP Mike C. to begin purchasing. He purchased the following items this week through DX Engineering with the Club account:

- MFJ -263 Dummy Loads
- MFJ - 802B Field Strength Meter
- RigExpert AA-650ZOOM Antenna Analyzer

Shipping was free, the total was \$902.31.



This was the best pricing available at this time.

We CURRENTLY have two donated pieces of test equipment; A ZeenKo, NanoVNA-H 4 Handheld Vector Network Analyzer and a Fluke Multimeter. Please consider if you have a piece of gently used and functional test equipment you can donate for this program. HDARC Director Harvey Dove KI5YVY is the lead for this program. Harvey KI5YVY is currently working on the program outline, equipment training program, and loaner process. He is tentatively scheduled to present an outline of how the program will work during the October

2024 Membership Meeting. Any equipment that has been purchased and in our possession to date will be at that membership meeting.

From the “Elmers”

Congratulations to those of you who just got their license a.k.a. “ticket”. Or, maybe you’ve had it for a while and are contemplating building a HF radio station...a bit more challenging than an HT. First thing to consider is where am I going to put it? (Probably a sturdy 3’ or 4’ x 2’ tabletop or desk space should work for now. No doubt the “hobby” will find other reasons to expand.). Maybe the home space gods have a spare bedroom they’re willing to give up, or maybe you’ll need to clear a little space in your own bedroom, home office, or den. I’ve known a few hams that actually operated from their living room (with a very understanding family...and headphones), or a clothes closet, or even a tiny linen closet...think vertical space. Assuming there are other cohabitants in your abode, your special place may be relegated to a clear spot on the workbench in the garage or basement. Won’t be the first time. Where do you suppose the term “radio shack” really came from? Lol Wherever you decide to set up your shack, consider the following...it’s always an evolution:

- **110 Volts AC w/ duplex or quad outlet, on its own circuit breaker, that’s close to the circuit breaker box ... but rarely is.**
- **You’ll need it for a 100 Watt HF radio and maybe a 25/ 50 Watt UHF/ VHF radio “rig”, plus a 25 to 35 Amp AC power supply to run them on 13.8 Volts DC.**
- **Probably a laptop computer and its charger.**

- **Antenna Tuners are usually passive standalone devices and don't need AC.**
- **Close to a window, or you're willing to drill a hole in the wall for HF/VHF/UHF antennas and ground cable.**
- **Antenna ground system...A MUST!**
- **Your antenna system, from 1 to X, will need a switching system that can ground them all, but disconnects your radio equipment during electrical storms.**
- **How about a lamp and a soldering iron.**
- **Good ventilation, a comfortable chair, and maybe even a small bookcase.**
- **Vertical storage drawers with file space on wheels for all those manuals, articles, project notes, contact logs, and radio parts.**
- **Eventually, should you get/ have that general ticket, you may want to add an HF amplifier which needs 220 Volts AC...let's see, where was that circuit breaker power panel, anyway? If your home has 220 in the garage for your car, it's not legal to have more than one outlet per circuit.**
- **Maybe there really is a tower in your future? These days it can be quite an investment.**
- **Then, you'd probably want a directional antenna which requires an 8-wire rotor cable plus AC power for the control unit plus ground rods.**
- **Maybe a TV screen if you're into digital and/ or if you acquire a radio with a pan adapter that shows all the band activity, including lightning strikes, and the shows the sounds the Earth makes! Ten meters is a great place to see/ hear them**

73 for now, Marc KD6KR

MaryAnn NS7X can be contacted through ns7x@arri.net

Marc KD6KR can be contacted through kd6kr@arri.net

ELMERS are defined as an experienced operator who takes someone under his or her wing, providing personal guidance and answers to the thousands of questions that confront a newbie. In our case it would include those wanting to upgrade.

The New HAM 10 (or so) Minute Tutorial- NEW

Take a look at dummy loads and how to build a simple one.

Let's explore: <https://youtu.be/PGtmSS0V4V0?si=u9UmQ4Jldh7sSJy1>

Live Streaming HDARC Monthly Meetings on ZOOM

The next live stream will happen during the October 19, 2024 in person membership meeting.

2024 Duke City Hamfest and Convention

The 2024 DCHF is September 20-22, 2024. The HDARC is a sponsor of the 2024 DCHF. I want to recognize and thank the following HDARC members for volunteering at the 2024 DCHF:

Staffing our HDARC Club Table

Harvey -KI5YVY

Bob- N5UKA

Tim-KY5YK

Steve- WB9ZRE

Forum Room Host

Jeff - W5OMU

Sean- KJ5USN

Harvey-KI5YVY

John-KI5YIF

Forum Presenter

MaryAnn -NS7X

John- KI5YIF

Yul - WA5YUL

I still need a few volunteers for the role of Forum Room Host. Please reach out to me at 505-401-0219 if you can help on Saturday Sept 21, 2024. All HDARC members are encouraged to attend the Hamfest and Convention. Check out the impressive speakers list. To see the schedule of events/speakers and to register go to <https://www.dukecityhamfest.org/>

HDARC Member Name Badges/Hats/Shirts



I have been asked by members how to purchase a HDARC Membership Badge. [Click Here](#) to be directed to our vendor's web store.



HDARC Shirts,hats,and other Club gear can be ordered from Rio Rancho T-Shirts, 1207 Golf Course Rd SE Ste F, Rio Rancho, NM 87124. Speak with Wayne or Penny at: (505) 891-1521



HAMMING AROUND NEW MEXICO -[NEW](#)

Weekend of October 4-5-6 Cooke's Canyon north of Deming. Drive down on Friday the 4 th and stay at the Desert Vista RV campground. 2020 Hatch Hwy, Deming, NM 88030. Join them at the campground if you wish or make other arrangements. Deming is about a 3.5 hour drive from Big I. Saturday morning, we will get an early start so we can visit many of the historic sites important to the history of New Mexico. These are good dirt roads with only a few rough spots so any good ground clearance vehicle should be okay. We will venture out to visit places like Cooke's City, Fort Cummings, the old Butterfield Trail and the Wells Fargo

Stage Route and Massacre Canyon. In the coming months they will provide fascinating stories in the weekly newsletter. Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning we can fire up the radios and see who we can chat with. For more information contact Past-President David N6SIK.

Club Calendar - September 2024

SAVE THE DATES **UPDATED**

The tentative Oct. through Dec. schedule will come out soon

September 2024

Wednesday September 4, 2024 Noon: Club ZOOM Lunchtime Chat Room. Click on the link below to enter the virtual room.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81747392564?pwd=W3vSa9XrFJdzQQrlqDFZu6yaP8nWir.1> PIN 737373

Saturday September 7, 2024 10:00 AM: HDARC NM5HD STATEWIDE CHAT SHACK NET on the MEGA Link NM5ML. John K5JVG will be our net controller. [Click Here](#) for more info.

Sunday September 8, 2024 5:00 AM - 6:00 PM: “Spaceport America Open House” Event in Southern New Mexico: NM5HD Amateur Radio Demonstration.

Wednesday September 11, 2024 Noon: Club ZOOM

Lunchtime Chat Room. Click on the link below to enter the virtual room.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81747392564?pwd=W3vSa9XrFJdzQQrlqDFZu6yaP8nWir.1> PIN 737373

Saturday September 14, 2024 10:00 AM: HDARC NM5HD

STATEWIDE CHAT SHACK NET on the MEGA Link NM5ML.
Net controller TBD . [Click Here](#) for more info.

Friday September 19 - Sunday September 21, 2025 8:00AM:
Duke City Hamfest & Convention.

Saturday September 20, 2024 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM : HDARC
Club Booth at the Duke City Hamfest & Convention.

Sunday September 21, 2024 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM: HDARC
Club Booth at the Duke City Hamfest & Convention.

Wednesday September 25, 2024 Noon: Club ZOOM

Lunchtime Chat Room. Click on the link below to enter the virtual room.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81747392564?pwd=W3vSa9XrFJdzQQrlqDFZu6yaP8nWir.1> PIN 737373

Saturday September 25, 2024 10:00 AM: HDARC NM5HD STATEWIDE CHAT SHACK NET on the MEGA Link NM5ML. NM5MC Mike C is our net controller. [Click Here](#) for more info.

Saturday CHAT SHACK NET/MegaLink

The Saturday 10am CHAT SHACK NET will use the 444.325 + PL 100 and the 145.290 - PL100 on Sandia Crest in order to access the MegaLink system.

NM5HD Net Controllers :

1st Saturday, John Gleeson, K5JVG

2nd Saturday, OPEN . We need volunteers.

3rd Saturday, Club Meeting. No net

4th Saturday, Michael Chirin, NM5MC

5th Saturday, (when needed) Open for a volunteer. Backfilled by Mike Smith, KI5NBP until a volunteer is assigned.

We still need volunteers to run the 2nd Saturday and 5th Saturday of the month nets. This Saturday. John K5JVG will be Net Controller.

Please join us on this Net. It only takes a few minutes to check in. You can reach this Net from any part of NM because of its design. You just need to be on the right frequency, offset, and PL tone for the local repeater closest to your location at the day and time of the net. I use a HT and have checked in from different parts of the state with minimal issues. For current mega link frequency information go to www.nm5ml.com. If you're having issues programming your

radio email hdarcpres@gmail.com. You will be directed to someone in the club that can help you.

Please [click here](#) to see the operational status of NM5ML Mega Link Repeaters.

V.E. Testing

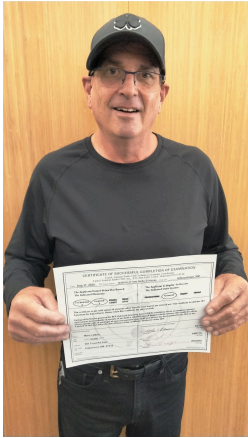
The Institute of HAM Radio Sciences conducts free V.E. testing session at NOON on the 3rd Saturday, of every month immediately following the Monthly HDARC In-Person Club Meeting in classroom #4 at the North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center. Look for the link [FREE TESTING](#) on the club web page. Please, pre register on the club web page for testing www.nm5hd.org. For more information contact Yul Bratcher at his email, yul.bratcher@att.net A big 73 to YUL and the V.E. team for volunteering their time and resources. Without them this could not happen.

Congratulations to the following HAMS who tested at our August Meeting:

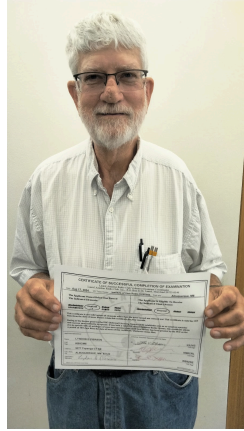
Adam Layer KJ5HSU - New Technician

Lyndon Pierce KB5CMS -upgrade to General

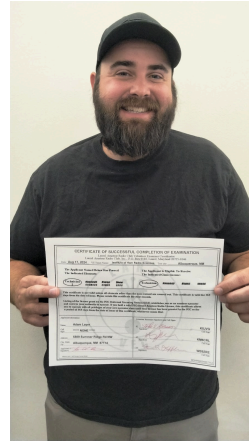
Marc LaBrie KJ5HRY - New passed Technician and General



KJ5HRY



KB5CMS



KJ5HSU

Thank you Steve Loeffler for the photos.

HDARC By-Law Review Progress Report

Here is an update on the actions club officers have taken based on the revisions. We have deposited \$5000.00 into a 8 month CD earning 5 percent. This will act as the budget reserve. COB Ken Ham AG5UY will be added as the third person on the bank account as required by the new revisions.

HDARC CLUB COMMUNICATION TRAILER

Thanks to Rob KI5NBN, progress is being made in repairing, modifying and identifying what we need to make the trailer truly operational. The trailer now has two antenna mounting systems. Thank you Rob KI5NBN for your continued work on the trailer. Our next scheduled outing using the trailer is the Spaceport America this weekend.

Classifieds

Welcome to the classified section. The intent is to give members and other HAMS a place to advertise any HAM related equipment they have for sale. It is also a place for members to list what HAM related equipment they are seeking to buy. Here is our first listing from Chuck KA5PAL who is always checking in on the NM5HD State-wide Chat Shack Net. He is listing the following for sale:



[50 foot Tower \(click on the title\)](#)

Chuck's email is cwstonex@outlook.com

If you have something to post in the classifieds please email it to me no later than Sunday prior to the Wednesday publications date. Email to hdarcpres@gmail.com

Listing 2 from Rob KI5NBN



We just got a Kenwood TM-281 from a Silent Key's family. It is 65 Watts and has the magnetic mount antenna. No mounting bracket.

It retails for over 150 bucks new in the box.

50 bucks to HDARC Members.

Contact me if you are interested in the radio.

HAM RADIO ETIQUETTE

- adapted from the original Amateur's Code, written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE...He/[She] never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL...He/[She] offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IARU Radio Society in his/[her] country, through which Amateur Radio in his/[her] country is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE...He/[She] keeps his/[her] station up to date. It is well-built and efficient. His/[Her] operating practice is above reproach.

FRIENDLY...He/[She] operates slowly and patiently when requested; offers friendly advice and counsel to beginners; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED...Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC...His/[Her] station and skills are always ready for service to country and community.

CONCLUSION

Check the club's website often, there are interesting things being added weekly. www.nm5hd.org

I want to thank the club's COB, Kenneth Ham, AG5UY, for maintaining the website. Thanks Yul, WA5YUL and V.E. team for what they do to provide free testing to the public. Thank you to our Elmers MaryAnn NS7X and Marc KD6KR. Thanks to those of you who provided content for this newsletters. Feel free to reach out to me anytime at hdarcpres@gmail.com. If you wish to add content to the weekly newsletter the deadline for submission is Monday preceding the Wednesday publication date. *I hope to hear from you on Saturday's HDARC State-wide Net on the Mega-Link and on Sunday from 1000 hrs to 1400 hr on the Mega-Link as we operate from Spaceport America.*

73 Mike

**Michael R. Smith, KI5NBP, President HDARC
The High Desert Amateur Radio Club of New Mexico, Inc.**